

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for determining whether a test compound is a candidate modulator of the drug resistance of a cell, the method comprising:
 - a) determining the level of ~~MDA-9~~ expression of a gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in a cell in the presence of a test compound;
 - b) determining the level of ~~MDA-9~~ expression of the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in the cell in the absence of the test compound; and
 - c) identifying the compound as a candidate modulator of drug resistance in the cell if the level of expression of the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~of MDA-9~~ in the cell in the presence of the test compound differs from the level of expression of the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~of MDA-9~~ in the cell in the absence of the test compound.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~MDA-9 is encoded by gene~~ encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 is an endogenous gene.
3. (Currently amended) A method for determining whether a test compound modulates the drug resistance of a cell, the method comprising:
 - a) incubating ~~MDA-9 protein~~ a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in the presence of a test compound;
 - b) determining whether the test compound binds to the ~~MDA-9~~ protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

c) selecting a test compound which binds to the MDA-9 protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

d) administering the test compound selected in step c) to a non-human mammal having drug resistant cells;

e) determining whether the test compound alters the drug resistance of the cells in the non-human mammal; and

f) identifying the test compound as a modulator of drug resistance of the cell if the compound alters the drug resistance of the cells in step e).

4-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of expression of ~~MDA-9 mRNA~~ the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 is determined by measuring the level of mRNA encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~MDA-9~~.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the level of expression of ~~MDA-9~~ the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 is determined by measuring the level of ~~MDA-9 protein~~ a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

23. (Currently amended) A method for determining whether a test compound is a candidate modulator of the drug resistance of a cell, the method comprising:

a) determining the level of ~~MDA-9~~ expression of a gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in a cell in the presence of a test compound;

b) determining the level of ~~MDA-9~~ expression of the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in the cell in the absence of the test compound; and

c) selecting a compound as a candidate modulator of drug resistance in the cell if the level of expression of the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 of MDA-9 in the cell in the presence of the test compound differs from the level of expression of the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 of MDA-9 in the cell in the absence of the test compound;

d) administering the test compound selected in step c) to a non-human mammal having drug resistant cells;

e) determining whether the candidate modulator of drug resistance alters the drug resistance of the cells in the non-human mammal; and

f) identifying the candidate modulator of drug resistance as a modulator of drug resistance of the cell if the compound alters the drug resistance of the cells in step e).

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the level of expression of ~~MDA-9 mRNA~~ the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 is determined by measuring the level of mRNA encoding ~~MDA-9~~ a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23 wherein the level of expression of ~~MDA-9~~ the gene encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 is determined by measuring the level of ~~MDA-9 protein~~ a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.